

**CLAIMS:**

## 1. A computer apparatus comprising:

means for displaying a visual decision tree model in a symbol based table, the visual model including a plurality of visual objects, each of the visual objects being linked to at least one other object to form a decision tree such that after the initial object the tree displays only visual objects which depend from objects which have been selected by a user.

2. A computer apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein information is provided to the user through browser buttons at each object.

3. A computer apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein once the final object set in the tree is presented, consequences of that choice are presented to the user.

## 4. A computer implemented method comprising:

displaying a visual decision tree model in a symbol based table, the visual model including a plurality of visual objects, each of the visual objects being linked to at least one other object to form a decision tree; and

after the initial object the tree displaying only visual objects which depend from objects which have been selected by a user.

5. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein information is provided to the user through browser buttons at each decision level within the tree.

6. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the information includes issues that the user should consider prior to making the decision.

7. A method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the information includes questions, which the user should ask prior to making the decision.

8. A method as claimed in claim 7, wherein the information includes answers to those questions that have been put forward by other users.

9. A method as claimed in claim 4, wherein once the final object in the tree is presented, consequences of that choice are presented to the user.

10. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the consequences include cost implications of the choice.

11. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the consequences include workload implications of the choice.

12. A method as claimed in claim 9, wherein the consequences include risk analysis of the choice.